

### **REMARKS**

In this amendment, claims 1-3, 11, 16, and 18 have been cancelled and claim 5 has been amended. Claims 5-7, 9, 10, 12-15, 17 and 19 remain pending.

#### **Claim Objections**

Claim 5 has been objected to for minor informalities. Applicants have amended the claim to recite "A process..." as opposed to "The process..." as suggested by the Examiner.

#### **Issues under 35 USC § 103**

Claims 1, 3, 11, 16 and 18 have been rejected under 35 USC § 103 as being obvious over Tano et al. (WO 01/00572) having an English language equivalent of US 6,657,071 in view of Ishikawa et al. (EP 384 480 A2). This rejection is respectfully traversed. Reconsideration and withdrawal thereof are requested in view of the cancellation of the rejected claims.

Claim 2 has been rejected under 35 USC § 103 as being obvious over Tano et al. (WO 01/00572) having an English language equivalent of US 6,657,071 in view of Ishikawa et al. (EP 384 480 A2) and further in view of Magari et al. (US 4,416,809). This rejection is respectfully traversed. Reconsideration and withdrawal thereof are requested in view of the cancellation of claim 2.

**Allowable Subject Matter**

Claims 5-7, 9, 10, 12-15, 17 and 19 have been found allowable.

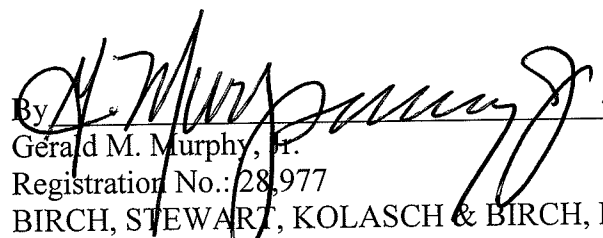
Inasmuch as the only claims remaining in the instant application are allowable claims 5-7, 9, 10, 12-15, 17 and 19, Applicants believe the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Gerald M. Murphy, Jr. Reg. No. 28,977 at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: April 30, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

By   
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